



Stennis hands out Silver Snoopys

Local residents win big

Page 7

The Sea Coast Echo

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ONE SECTION, 12 PAGES 75 CENTS



Disaster Recovery Centers to close for New Year's holidays

Disaster Recovery Centers throughout Mississippi will close at 6 p.m. Dec. 30, 2005 in observance of the New Year's holiday, announce state and federal officials.

The centers will reopen Jan. 3, 2006 and resume normal hours from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Saturday, and continue to be closed on Sundays. The centers serve individuals and families affected by Hurricane Katrina.

People affected by Hurricane Katrina are urged to register for assistance before visiting a Disaster Recovery Center by calling 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or (TTY) 1-800-462-7585 for the speech or hearing-impaired or by going online at www.fema.gov. The deadline to apply for disaster assistance is Jan. 11, 2006.

Representatives of state, federal and voluntary agencies will be on hand to answer questions and provide recovery information. Officials from the U.S. Small Business Administration will be available to discuss disaster loans for homeowners, renters and businesses of all sizes. Written materials about various assistance programs are also available to individuals and business owners.

Happy New Year!

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Boy Scout Leader Joey Douglas, left, unloads kitchen utensils at Main Street First Baptist Church on Tuesday morning. Troop 243 from Elkhorn, Wisconsin, travelled 18 hours to donate clothes, sheets, towels, and kitchen utensils. Pictured here are Trevor Stimmel, 13, right, and Mike Douglas, 21.

Kid time at KaBoom!



City Park now open

Children enjoy the mild weather on Tuesday afternoon at City Park. The new playground built by non-profit KaBOOM! opened for play last week. Playing in the sand box are Courtney Brown, Brittany Brown, Rochelle Manning and Willie Junior Manning and not pictured is Anthony Brown. (Echo photo by Jace Ponder)

Kiln may be home for jail

BY DWAYNE BREMER

The Hancock County Sheriff's Department is now fully functional in its new office, located on Hwy. 603 in Kiln, and if Sheriff Steve Garber has his wish the department may be permanently relocated.

"Our office and jail on Court St. suffered a massive amount of damage from Hurricane Katrina," Garber said. "Our office in Kiln is centrally located, and with the annexation situation in the southern part of the county, there may not be any room to grow in Bay St. Louis. Everything has been going north, and I would like to see us rebuild our office and jail in Kiln."

Garber says that he plans to talk to the Board of Supervisors soon about the future of the department as well as the county jail.

"It's going to be a money issue. If it cost let's say 20 million to build a new jail, and only five million to fix the old one, then we will have no choice but to fix the existing jail," Garber

said.

The Pearl River County Jail which was built in 2004, cost an estimated 10 million dollars. Pearl River County's jail holds up to 350 inmates, and the county uses their jail to produce revenue by holding more than 50 state trustees.

Currently Hancock County is under contract with Pearl River County to hold the inmates at a rate of \$30 dollars a day. Before Aug 29, the average number of inmates that Hancock County had in custody was between 110 and 120, there are only about 60 inmates for Hancock County held in Pearl River.

"Currently we are getting reimbursed on the 30 dollars a day by FEMA, and hopefully we can get this for about 18 months," Garber said.

Garber's wish for a new jail has the support of his correctional officers as well as other local officials.

"First off, I don't think that we need to have the jail right by the water, because the same thing

Continued on page 6

Man arrested for impersonating police officer

BY DWAYNE BREMER

A strange sequence of events led to the arrest of a Jackson Ms. man for impersonating a police officer last week. Blaine Thomas, 45 years old, address 1766 Wood Glen St Jackson Ms. was arrested Dec 19 at Gulf View Elementary School, after witnesses said that he was claiming to be a criminal investigator with FEMA.

Lt. Abry Liebig of the Hancock County Sheriff's

responded to the call at Buccaneer Park.

"When I arrived, I spoke with a woman that said there was an individual who came up to her truck and began writing down information about the truck," Liebig said. "The man then began to ask her personal questions, and the woman began to feel like she was being interrogated."

Liebig said that when the woman's friends came outside, the man

Continued on page 6

Lott brokers \$2 billion Federal Medicaid reimbursement deal

The U.S. Senate Wednesday morning, with the vote of Vice President Dick Cheney, passed a bill containing an agreement crafted by U.S. Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi with House and Senate leaders and the Bush Administration to provide the hurricane-stricken states of Mississippi and Louisiana with a 100 percent reimbursement for medicaid costs as well as reimbursement for uncompensated health care costs.

Lott said the agreement, contained in S. 1932, the Deficit Reduction Reconciliation Conference Report, will give the two states additional financial leverage in their Hurricane Katrina recovery efforts. The Senate vote Wednesday was a tie, 50-50, and the Vice President cast the deciding vote. The bill already has passed the House of Representatives.

"This is not about expanding the medicaid program or changing its eligibility requirements, but it is about giving state officials more money from which to work and administer the hurricane recovery effort," Senator Lott said. "For instance, Mississippi taxpayers who have normally been paying about 22 cents for every medicaid benefit dollar now will pay zero. That will free up about \$700 million more for our state at a time when this money is desperately needed for Mississippi's rebuilding and recovery."

The medicaid program will continue to be administered by the states. The 100 percent federal cost share will proceed until the \$2.1 billion federal earmark is expended.

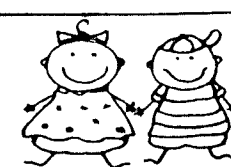
Senator Lott worked directly with the Bush Administration to move the medicaid provision through Congress as part of the larger budget rec-

onciliation package. That provision initially passed the Senate as part of the Senate-passed budget reconciliation bill, and Senator Lott insisted that the medicaid provision, which he authored with Senate Finance Committee Chairman Chuck Grassley of Iowa, be included in the final bill.

The agreement also includes provisions ensuring that displaced persons on medicaid, or eligible for the program, are provided health care services, despite being temporarily located outside their home states. The State of Alabama also will receive some medicaid assistance.

"The medicaid program's cost traditionally requires a considerable financial burden on our state government," Senator Lott said. "My provision gives Mississippi some additional room to breathe in the aftermath of this unprecedented disaster,

and I am pleased that the Bush Administration and my congressional colleagues have acted decisively to support it."



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Weekly Katrina update

Federal and state disaster officials provided the following summary of the ongoing assistance effort as of close of business Dec. 21, 2005:

- Individuals and Households program total payments disbursed: \$968,151,527.

- Public Assistance obligated funds currently total \$649,239,437.

- The U.S. Small Business Administration Disaster Assistance

Program has approved 7,621 home loans, 866 business loans and 193 economic injury loans, totaling \$651,199,000.

- The cruise ship shelter is currently docked in Pascagoula and has 955 displaced persons and 20 FEMA staff on-board.

- 383 portable classrooms and 187 temporary offices have been provided to hurricane damaged counties by FEMA and installed by

the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE).

- More than 25 million cubic yards of debris has been removed from public and private property by USACE, local governments and contractors.

- FEMA has assigned the USACE to install 49,892 temporary roofs through Operation Blue Roof.

- There are four open shelters (including the cruise ship shelter) housing 983 individuals.

- 385,879 housing inspections have been completed.

- To date, the four counties with the most registrations for Individual Assistance are: Forrest, Harrison, Hinds and Jackson. The total number of registrations for all four counties is 237,622.

- The total number of travel trailers currently occupied is 28,858. There are 323 mobile homes occupied.

- Approximate number of people occupying temporary housing: 78,789. There are approximately 651 people occupying 241 temporary housing units that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

- The four counties with the most travel trailers placed are: Hancock, Harrison, Jackson and Pearl River.

Federal and state disaster recovery officials urge those who have not done so to apply for disaster assistance as soon as possible by calling the toll-free application number at 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or (TTY) 1-800-462-7585 for speech- or hearing-impaired. Individuals may also register online at www.fema.gov. The deadline for new applications for Individual Assistance is January 11, 2006.

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NASA technologist named Latina "Woman of the Year"

As an aerospace technologist at NASA's Stennis Space Center, Rosa Obregon helps test engines to power rockets toward the stars. Now — thanks to Latina magazine — she's in the company of stars.

Latina's December 2005/January 2006 issue names Obregon one of the 10 Women of the Year for her contribution to NASA's space shuttle mission in July, the first shuttle flight since the 2003 Columbia accident. The magazine's other honorees include: a New Orleans doctor described as a heroine of Hurricane Katrina; the president of MTV; a Tony Award winner; and, as a group, the almost 2,500 Latina troops deployed in the Middle East. The magazine gives actress Eva Longoria of ABC's show, "Desperate Housewives," top honors as the Woman of the Year.



ROSA OBREGON

Obregon, a Corpus Christi, Texas native, like Longoria, says, "I'm extremely honored by the recognition, proud to represent NASA and my family, and flattered to be included in a group of Latina women who have

worked so hard to succeed in their professions."

Obregon's lifelong fascination with space began during visits to her parents' hometown of Monterrey, Mexico, where she would marvel at the star-filled sky. She eventually earned a bachelor's degree in aerospace technology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After graduating in June 2004,

Obregon joined the Stennis team.

At Stennis, she has been involved in a hybrid rocket motor test program and was one of five test conductors for the External Tank Foam Test Project. That test team simulated weather conditions for a shuttle launch to determine what kinds of ice and frost formed on the fuel tank's foam insulation. The test results provided necessary information for Space Shuttle Discovery's liftoff from NASA's Kennedy Space Center, Fla., on July 26.

"Her story is very inspiring because she's so young and has already accomplished so much," said Damarys Ocana, Latina magazine's associate editor. "We're always looking for women who can be role models for our community. We like to feature women who, like Rosa, worked hard in school and show that it's possible to stick to one's dreams and accomplish great things."

For information about NASA and agency programs on the Web, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/home>

Birth announcement

Mr. and Ms. Melissa Fountain and Bryan Dulworth of 9159 Malabar St., Bay St. Louis announce the birth of their second child, Miracle Ann Marie Fountain on December 4, 2005 at 2:40 p.m. at Garden Park Medical Center.

She weighed 5 pounds, 12 ounces.

Maternal grandparents are Kenneth Fountain and Patti Fountain of Bay St. Louis.

Paternal grandparents are Ellen Dulworth and the late Oliver Joseph Dulworth.

Great grandparents from Bay St. Louis include the late L.J. Fountain and Audrey Garcia Fountain and the late Thyra Mary Russo Tyner and Earl Aubrey

Tyner.

Miracle is welcomed by brother Payton Joseph Fountain.

Singleton graduates Harding U.

Singleton among recent Harding graduates Valerie Singleton of Pearlinton was among the 370 graduates who received diplomas in commencement exercises at Harding University Dec. 17. Majoring in marketing, Singleton received the Bachelor of Business Administration degree.

The ceremonies were held in Benson Auditorium with Frank Mills, a 1980 Harding graduate, as the featured speaker.

President David B. Burks presented the diploma to Singleton.

Harding is the largest private university in Arkansas, with an enrollment of more than 5,900 students from 49 states and 46 countries. It also maintains campuses in Australia, Chile, England, France/Switzerland, Greece and Italy.

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Cuevas' Quotes

by Ellis C. Cuevas
Publisher Emeritus

Little things mean a lot

It was good to hear a group of youngsters playing, laughing, and screaming now and then while having a good time in the neighborhood over the weekend.

There seems to be so many things not normal! Those small things just mean so much to us during Katrina's recovery.

I realize there are mixed theories about our younger generation being here to see the destruction. I have had comments both ways.

I feel the aftermath of Katrina will leave a lasting impression on our youngerster just as it has on our adult population.

There were many of us who felt Camille was the grandmother of all storms and how wrong were us oldies.

Being here as youngsters and remembering Katrina, down the road as adults, they will know there is no such place in the coastal area as high ground.

When a hurricane approaches, they won't have to be told twice to evacuate.

Those of us who have been around a long time and weathered many a storm now know that this is no place to be in a hurricane.

You better believe that Katrina was the last hurricane for me to stick around for. I won't stay if there is any possible way to leave.

A lesson learned the hard way is never forgotten.

The play ground behind old Bay St. Louis City Hall is really a great asset for the area. I have passed it several times and noticed the kids having great times.

Everyone who helped make the play ground a reality needs to be commended.

Youngsters will enjoy the facilities for years to come.

It is once again good that our daylight time is on the rise.

I just enjoy those long daylight hours as much as warm weather.

We have already had our share of cold weather and winter is a long way from being over.

Many of our visitors have been surprised by our cold weather, especially those sleeping in tents.

Until next time!

This is not a game

Eyes on Mississippi

by Bill Minor

Gene Taylor dramatically drove home his point: he pitched a "Katrina village" style tent smack in the middle of the House committee room where his fellow Congressmen dawdled over Katrina recovery funds.

"This is not a game," Taylor told grimacing lawmakers. "Its peoples' lives...this is how hundreds of my constituents are still being housed on the Mississippi Gulf Coast." It was Dec. 14.

He added: "people there will be spending the night in weather that is as cold as it is here in Washington."

Good-naturedly, Rep. Tom Davis (R. VA) chairman of the House select Katrina committee said: "I think the gentleman from Mississippi has made his point, but I think he ought to get the tent out of the committee room."

Taylor, a Democrat from Mississippi's 4th District, complied, but only to the extent that he moved the tent out into the hallway of the Rayburn Bldg. Taylor is one of only two Democrats who meet with the select committee on federal post-Katrina response because Democratic leaders are boycotting it because the GOP leadership blocked creation of an independent commission.

After his tent-pitching gambit, Taylor said he noted a distinct change in the attitude of the Bush Administration people who had smugly been briefing the committee with charts and graphs

giving their take on what has been universally branded as an abysmally slow federal response.

Taylor does not take credit for having triggered it, but within several days there was an obvious reversal in Congress' lagging sentiment to pass a Katrina recovery package before lawmakers broke for Christmas.

Mississippi Sen. Thad Cochran was "the man" when on Dec. 21 a Katrina package of \$29 billion became a reality, says Taylor, adding, "Without Thad it wouldn't have happened." Cochran, as chairman of the Senate

Appropriations committee, is the only one of the state's six-member delegation in the GOP-controlled Congress with enough clout to force lawmakers to deal.

The usually laid-back Cochran overcame opposition from Republican colleagues in both the Senate and House as well President Bush and attached the hurricane aid measure to the must-pass \$453 billion defense appropriation.

The amount finally passed was far less than the \$35.8 billion recovery package Cochran had sought, and is, especially in the view of Louisiana's delegation only a down-payment or the real recovery needs.

But it was a real coup when Cochran steered through the Congressional meat-grinder inclusion of

Continued on page 6

COME ON IN '06! IT'S BEEN A TOUGH YEAR WITH KATRINA AND IRAQ. THERE'S ONE THING YOU CAN COUNT ON. MISSISSIPPI WILL MAKE A COMEBACK!



Letters to the Editor

Public input needed on Bay bridge design

Dear editor,

In response to your article Saturday December 24, 2005, "Council Tackles Annexation, Bay Bridge", I agree with Mayor Favre that the new Bay Bridge should be a "magnificent structure that will last for many years."

Other items in the article concern me, including the width of the bridge and the elimination of the drawbridge. That MDOT and Mr. Favre are using the Pascagoula bridge as a precedent for the design

of the Bay Bridge is of no consolation at all.

The Pascagoula Bridge is a soulless concrete hulk that says nothing to the spirit of that community.

The article also referenced the Golden Gate Bridge in San Francisco. Now there is a bridge that

inspires, and has become a worldwide icon.

Let's work toward the goal of the latter, rather than the former. Judging from past MDOT construction, this will be an uphill battle.

I am very concerned that MDOT will use the "design/build" delivery

method for this bridge as a way of keeping community input out of the process of design.

Just look at what is happening now in Biloxi and Ocean Springs where MDOT put a design on the table, and caught a lot of public criticism for it. In my opinion, that design is oversized, unfriendly, unattractive and wasteful.

Is "design/build" a strategy to avoid showing anything to the citizens,

Continued on page 6

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Not a game...Eyes on Mississippi

Continued from page 5

\$11.5 billion for claims of homeowners whose property, devastated by wind-driven water, was not covered by insurance because it was not within the federally-drawn pre-Katrina flood zone.

Taylor four weeks after Katrina introduced the original uninsured homeowners recovery bill. A week later Sen. Trent Lott introduced a similar measure in the Senate and most others from Mississippi eventually came on board.

But Cochran had remained silent on seeking insurance relief for Katrina homeowners until early December when he endorsed the idea in a talk at Richton.

Taylor was super-critical of the federal pre-Katrina flood zone map for the Gulf Coast which insurance companies used in policies they sold to homeowners.

"The feds' map was all wrong," said Taylor, adding, "it didn't bear any resemblance to what would happen in a hurricane. These people (among them prominent Coast residents) had insurance and thought they were safe from flooding."

Many readers and viewers in Mississippi may erroneously get the idea from news accounts and headlines after the \$29 billion was passed that the entire amount was destined for

Mississippi. Not so. Louisiana gets almost 60 per cent of the aid and Mississippi about 40 per cent.

Taylor's key role in prying the Katrina aid package out of Congress got little media mention in this part of the state, perhaps because he is a Democrat and the publicity campaign orchestrated by Barbour Administration made it appear to be entirely a Republican show.

An editorial comment aired on Jackson's WLBT, the largest television in the state, handing out kudos to members of the state's Congressional delegation who helped win approval of the Katrina recovery pack-

age included Cochran, Lott and Republican Rep. Chip Pickering, but didn't even mention Taylor.

To its credit, The Clarion-Ledger editorially singled out Taylor and his persistent push in behalf of uninsured homeowners which, said the C-L "shamed others into taking their plight seriously."

Certainly Taylor became a hero to a whole lot of people on the Gulf Coast and in South Mississippi, when, after losing his own home at Bay St. Louis to Katrina, he pitched in with his sleeves rolled up to get help to those who needed it.

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Bay bridge...Letters

Continued from page 5

of Bay St. Louis, Waveland and Pass Christian? According to MDOT there exists a "conceptual design" that will guide contractors in putting together their bids for the project, but this design has not been made readily available to the community.

We are within our rights to demand to see this conceptual design before bids are taken. We need input on the bridge design, and a say in a major element in the visual collage of our community.

Once a price is locked in with a contractor, it will be next to impossible to affect any changes in the scope of the project.

Anything a community group or individual suggests can simply be dismissed by saying "it's not in the budget."

The bridge will be one of the most expensive

projects ever taken on in our community - let's make sure we get our money's worth, and get the features we as a community decide are important to us. From my perspective, these are the things I would like to see incorporated:

• Two vehicular travel lanes (and only two) in each direction.

• Safe bike and pedestrian access across the bridge.

• Areas that would accommodate fishing from the bridge (anyone remember fishing from the bridge, and the local flavor it brought?).

• A draw or swing bridge to accommodate large boats, not an 1-10 Twinspan or Pascagoula-like hump. Waiting a few minutes for the occasional shrimp boat to pass, will afford the opportunity to enjoy the view from the center of the span.

• Appropriate night lighting, sensitive to the view of the night sky and attractive to view from shore.

• Compelling yet efficient design of the support structures and spans.

• Solar photovoltaic panels or tidal generators for energy production. Let's design the bridge to generate its own power, and save millions of dollars over the life span of the bridge.

• Transitions from on-grade roads to the bridge that are not elevated well back onto shore. Such a structure would effectively kill any sense of the bridge belonging to the urban fabric, and limit potential use by bikers and pedestrians.

I hope others can articulate some of their wishes for the bridge as well, and begin to make MDOT aware of our concerns. Keep in mind that

MDOT has one major goal - get traffic across the bay as quickly and safely as possible. The future bridge, without spending more money, can do so much more if we work to make it happen, and are allowed to participate in the design process.

The bridge is vital to our communities, not just as a way to get across the water, but as a symbol of our renewal. We must have a say in something so central to the recreation of our home.

John Anderson, AIA
Bay St. Louis

25 million cubic yards of debris cleared in MS

Since Hurricane Katrina made landfall Aug. 29, 2005, tremendous progress has been made in the clearing of debris from public and private property in the state of Mississippi. Katrina left more than 40 million cubic yards of debris in its wake and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, local governments and their contractors have worked with the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to clear more than 25 million cubic yards of debris.

To give one an idea of how much debris has been cleared, it would take someone in a standard pick up truck more than 8 million trips to a waste facility to move 25 million cubic yards of

debris. If the number of pick up trucks to haul 25 million cubic yards of debris lined up, they would stretch around the world. Twenty-five million cubic yards of debris placed in a building 100 feet by 100 feet, would reach 13 miles into the sky.

"Federal, state and local officials are working together to clean up affected areas so communities can recover," said Nick Russo, the federal coordinating officer for FEMA's Mississippi recovery efforts. "The removal of debris following Hurricane Katrina is a massive task that we are getting closer to completion everyday."

Debris removal operations throughout the state are approximately 60 percent complete. As the Corps nears the end of its

mission of clearing debris on rights of way, more crews are being allocated to remove debris on private property. The Corps has already surpassed the halfway point for its FEMA-assigned mission to remove debris in several counties and cities receiving direct federal assistance.

Debris removal on private property is well underway in several areas. Sixteen counties and 36 cities have requested and been approved for private property debris removal. To date 43,651 right-of-entries (ROEs) have been received for private property debris removal. Of the 33,133 ROEs that have been inspected, 6,034 have had all debris hazards removed from them.

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Traffic stop leads to drug bust

BY DWAYNE BREMER

A traffic stop in Bayside Park on Tuesday morning resulted in the arrest of two men for cocaine and crack.

"Two deputies made a traffic stop on East Adams St. in Bayside Park around midnight

Tuesday morning," said Hancock County Narcotics Chief Matt Karl. "After getting consent to search the vehicle, officers found several spoons with drug residue on them, as well as some powder and crack cocaine."

Karl was called two time later, Karl made the arrest of Jamie Wayne Henry, 44 years old, 313 Grayson Ave. Pass Christian Ms, and Ian Christopher Wangert, 31 years old, 6203 West Donges Bay Rd, Mequon

Wi. The two suspects were taken to the Pearl river County Jail and are being held under \$25,000 bond. The arrest make a total of 18 drug related arrest by the Hancock County Narcotics Team in the past two weeks.

Fireworks outlawed in Bay, Waveland

Bay St. Louis and Waveland will not be allowing the sale or discharge of fireworks this Christmas and New Year's.

The city is still under a burn ban, and concerns about debris and public safety prompted the action.

A statement from Mayor Eddie Favre, Fire Chief Robert Gavagine, and the City Council said, "because of the extreme conditions brought on by Hurricane Katrina within the City of Bay St. Louis, and in order to preserve good order and to prevent per-

sonal injury to, destruction of, or interference with public or private property within the city, the sale, discharge, and/or use of fireworks of every kind and description is prohibited until further notice within the city limits of Bay St. Louis Mississippi."

The City of Waveland will also not be allowing fireworks this year.

"As far as I know, fireworks are allowed in the county," Adam said. "We hope that people use caution, and respect other peoples property."

Jail in Kiln

Continued from Page 1

may happen again," said Corrections Administrator David Johnson. "The old jail was right next to the railroad tracks as well, and every time that a train passed the whole building rattled. I think it would be a good idea just for the safety aspect."

"I think that we need to have everything in a central location," said Justice Court Judge Ricky Adam. "There is plenty of room in the county to have a sheriff's office, justice court, and other county offices all in the same place."

Hancock County had

nearly 30 corrections officers before the storm, now there are only 14. The corrections officers that stayed on the job had been working alongside Pearl River officers, assisting with Hancock County inmates. Garber said that keeping his corrections in this county will serve many useful purposes.

The Kiln office is staffed by the corrections officers and it is equipped with an eight man holding cell. Arrestees can be booked in and out at the station, and those who cannot bond are taken to Pearl

River.

"Every person we book in and out from the station saves \$30 dollars," Garber said. "If we book out five people a day than that could mean over \$70,000 dollars per year we can save."

The officers that man the station will assist in transport with Youth Court, Justice Court, and Circuit Court. The manning of the office also allows for Kiln office to the public for 24 hours a day.

"The most important thing is that we can keep our patrol officers in the county," Garber said.

"When we had our corrections in Pearl River County, our patrol officers had to leave the county for hours at a time."

Garber believes that a new jail and office will serve the county for years to come, as the rebuilding process goes on.

"The cities are going to be taking over everything south of the interstate, and people from Pearlinton and Lakeshore should not have a problem with coming north," Garber said. "I think that if we are able to get some assistance from the government, then the idea of a new jail may not be that far out of reach."

Impersonator

Continued from page 1

left in a hurry. The lady called the sheriff's department.

About half an hour

later, the sheriff's department received another call claiming that the same kind of event was

occurring at an address on Lower Bay Rd.

When Liebig went to that call, Liebig got a similar story from another woman. Both women were able to give Liebig the tag number of the suspect's car, and a description of the suspect.

Liebig located the suspect at Gulf View Elementary School, and the suspect was arrested. A jacket that reads "FEMA" in large letters was displayed in the back seat of the suspect's car.

Investigator Andre Fizer said that FEMA is still investigating the case for possible further charges.

"We have spoken with FEMA, and they are aware of the situation," Fizer said. "If anyone tries to say that they are with FEMA they will have proper identification. We want the public to be aware of this, and if anyone thinks there is anything suspicious please call the sheriff's office."

Liebig believes that with all of the outside police in the area, it is easy for people to be confused.

"Please make sure that anyone you deal with has proper identification. Anyone who is a law enforcement officer will have no problem showing you their identification," Liebig said.

Obituaries

RUBY GATES
LARRY WALL, SR.

RUBY GATES

Ruby Dolores Gates, 62 Bay St. Louis, died Tuesday, December 20, 2005, in Starkville.

She was a native of Biloxi and was a bookkeeper in the real estate industry.

She was preceded in death by her parents, James and Alma Conn, sister, Patricia.

Petringelo, and great-grandson, Richard Leo Abba.

Survivors include her husband of 32 years, Richard Gates, of Bay St. Louis; daughter, Dolores Keys; granddaughters, Heather Mackbee and her husband, Troy Thigpin; and Holly Abba; and her husband, Steven; great-grandchildren, Sadie, Kristian, and Valic; and nephew, John Petringelo.

Visitation will be at Riemann Memorial Funeral Home, Hwy. 49 North in Gulfport, on Wednesday, December 28, 2005, from 9 a.m. until the memorial service at 10 a.m.

LARRY WALL, SR.

Larry Verdon Wall, Sr., 75 of Kiln, MS, died

Wednesday, December 21, 2005 in Gulfport Memorial Hospital.

He was a native of Newton County, MS. He was a painter and member of Victory Baptist Church in Kiln.

He was preceded in death by son Marion Anthony Wall, and grandson Calvin Hoda.

He is survived by wife Lois Cuevas Wall of Kiln, MS; 3 daughters, Linda Rizzo of

Kiln, MS, Charlotte Costine of Biloxi, MS, and Connie Grass of Katie, TX; 2 sons, Larry Wall, Jr. and Richard Wall both of Kiln, MS; 12 grandchildren and 8 great grandchildren. He is also survived by sister Maureen Walters of Forrest, MS, and brother Dewey Wall of Meridian, MS.

Visitation was held on Monday, December 26, 2005 from 6 until 10 p.m. in the McDonald Funeral Home. Visitation will also be on Tuesday from 11 a.m. until the 2 p.m. funeral services at Victory Baptist Church in Kiln, MS.

McDonald Funeral Home in Picayune is in charge of arrangements.

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Clare & Chuck Jung

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A PLACE APART

Because of the extreme conditions brought on by Hurricane Katrina within the City of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, and in order to preserve good order and peace and to prevent injury to, destruction of, or interference with public or private property within the city, the sale, discharge and/or use of fireworks of every kind and description is prohibited until further notice within the city limits of Bay St. Louis, Mississippi,

By order of the Bay St. Louis City Council,
Mayor and the Fire Chief

Stennis presents Silver Snoopy Awards

Six employees at NASA's Stennis Space Center were honored Wednesday, Dec. 14, with a "Silver Snoopy," the personal achievement award given to space program workers by

NASA's Astronaut Corps. They were Mississippi Space Services' Mark Corr and Richard Ferrill, both of Bay St. Louis, Miss.; and Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne's

Reginald Hudson of Kenner, La., Annette Moran of Lakeshore, Miss., Anthony Peterson of Long Beach, Miss., and John Znachko of Biloxi, Miss. Mississippi Space Services is the prime contracting agency for NASA's facilities and engineering services at the center; Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne assembles and tests the space shuttle main engine for NASA.

Corr and Ferrill each received a Silver Snoopy pin flown on a space shuttle mission; and a letter of commendation and certificate, both signed and presented by Astronaut Eileen Collins, commander for the most recent space shuttle mission, STS-114. Peterson, Hudson, Moran and Znachko also received pins, and letters and certificates signed and presented by STS-114 Mission Specialist Steve Robinson.

The Silver Snoopy Award, initiated 35 years ago, recognizes individuals for professional dedication and outstanding efforts that greatly enhance the safety and success of human space flight missions.

Of all the Space Flight Awareness Awards, the Silver Snoopy best symbolizes the intent and spirit of Space Flight Awareness. An astronaut always presents the Silver Snoopy because it is the astronauts' own award for outstanding performance, contributing to flight safety and mission success. Less than 1 percent of the space program work force receives it annually.

The purpose of the SFA program is to ensure that all employees involved in human space flight are aware of the importance of their roles



Mark Corr (right), of Bay St. Louis, receives the Silver Snoopy award from Astronaut Eileen Collins at NASA's Stennis Space Center near Bay St. Louis, Miss. With them are (from left) Corr's mother, Shirley, and his wife, Donna. Collins commanded Space Shuttle Discovery on its most recent mission, STS-114, NASA's return to flight after the 2003 loss of Space Shuttle Columbia. She and STS-114 Mission Specialist Steve Robinson awarded the Silver Snoopy award during their Dec. 14 visit to Stennis to thank employees for their role in returning the space shuttle to flight.



Annette Moran (left), of Lakeshore, receives the Silver Snoopy award from Astronaut Steve Robinson at NASA's Stennis Space Center near Bay St. Louis, Miss. Robinson was a mission specialist aboard Space Shuttle Discovery on its most recent mission, STS-114, during which he performed three spacewalks. Robinson and STS-114 Commander Eileen Collins awarded the Silver Snoopy award during their Dec. 14 visit to Stennis to thank employees for their role in returning the space shuttle to flight.



Richard Ferrill (center), of Bay St. Louis, receives the Silver Snoopy award from Astronaut Eileen Collins at NASA's Stennis Space Center near Bay St. Louis, Miss. With them is Ferrill's wife, Charlene. Collins commanded Space Shuttle Discovery on its most recent mission, STS-114, NASA's return to flight after the 2003 loss of Space Shuttle Columbia. She and STS-114 Mission Specialist Steve Robinson awarded the Silver Snoopy award during their Dec. 14 visit to Stennis to thank employees for their role in returning the space shuttle to flight.

Coast conditions mirror history of Delta counties

Trend data on the State's unemployment rate, released in the annual KIDS COUNT Mississippi update on key indicators of child and family well-being, paint a disturbing picture of the economic impact of Hurricane Katrina.

"If you define the current economic status of the three Mississippi Coast counties by their post-Katrina unemployment rate, you're talking about counties in worse shape than Tunica when Sugar Ditch and joblessness made the Delta a poster child for modern day poverty in America," said Jane Boykin, Project Director for KIDS COUNT Mississippi and President of the Jackson-based Forum on Children and Families. While 19.9 percent is the highest annual unemployment rate ever reported for Tunica County in available data according to Boykin, the three Coast counties posted September 2005 unemployment rates ranging from a low of 23 percent in Jackson County to a high of 24.2 percent in Harrison County.

"Overnight Katrina did more damage to the Coast economy than a century plus of generational poverty did to the economy of the Delta," she continued. "We tend to forget the Delta counties

were once known for their wealth before they became better known for their poverty. If the Coast is going to avoid a similar fate, we need to look closely at recent unemployment data and see what was happening in these counties before Katrina."

Each of the three Coast counties on the Mississippi Coast posted annual unemployment rates below the State average at the beginning and end of the five year period 1999-2003; but, unemployment increased in all three.

Jackson County experienced the largest increase, 62 percent, with an unemployment rate of 3.9 percent in 1999 rising to 6.3 percent in 2003 — rates that were below the State average rate in both years. However, Jackson County's 62 percent was almost three times the

State's 21 percent average percent of change over the five year period. Only 10 counties in the State experienced a greater increase.

Of the three Coast counties, Hancock County experienced the least change during the period, twenty-two percent (22%). In 1999, Hancock County's 4.1 percent unemployment rate was the highest in the three Coast counties. Yet, by the end of the period in 2003, the County's unemployment rate of 5.0 percent was the lowest on the Coast — slightly lower than Harrison County's 5.1 percent and well below the 6.3 percent reported for Jackson County.

A pocket guide accompanying the 2005 KIDS COUNT Mississippi report supplemented the county-by-county trend data from 1999-2003 with more recent data on unemployment in the State's 82 counties — the average unemployment rate in counties for the first six months of 2005 and the September 2005 monthly rate.

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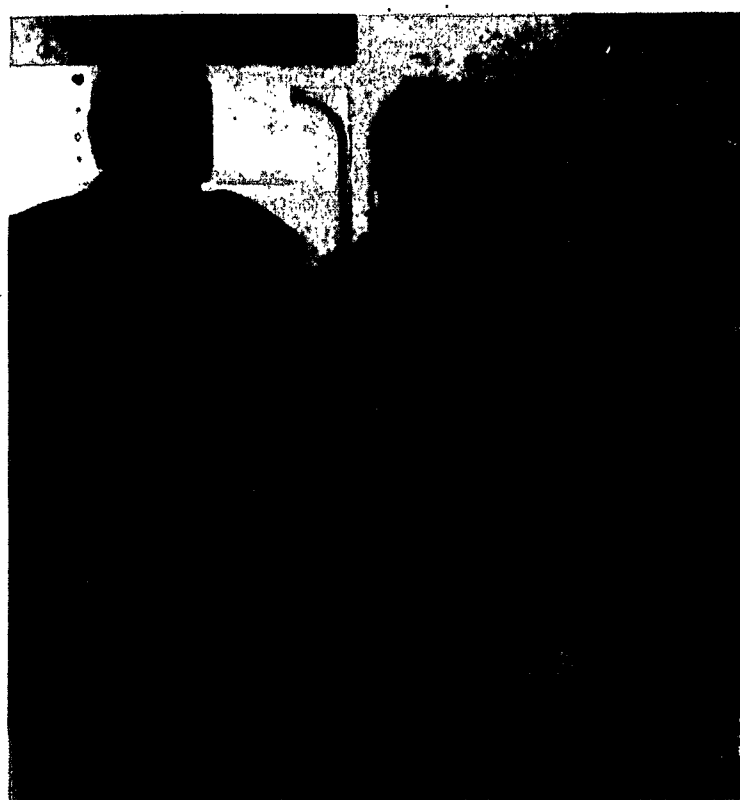
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Medical unit

CJ Jones, director of Voice of Calvary Family Health Center, and Joe Dawsey, executive director of Coastal Family Health Center, show off the new mobile medical unit provided by Voice of Calvary of Jackson. Funding for the donated mobile unit was provided by Modesto Rotary Club in California. "With the MobMed unit, Coastal can provide continuity of service," Jones said. It will provide a place for doctors to work and patients a place to go. The new unit is located in Hancock Square by Hancock Medical Center. According to Dawsey, Coastal will be equipped to see patients beginning Tuesday, December 27.

School districts to receive grants

The stories of devastation, destruction and need across the Gulf Coast are overwhelming. But while there remains an enormous amount of work ahead, there are signs of hope and rebuilding across the area. Nowhere is that more true than the reopening of schools and the efforts to provide stable learning environments for children.

ING U.S. Financial Services, with the help of the American Association of School Administrators, wants to help bring the power and

optimism of education back to the future generations of Louisiana and Mississippi. In order to do that, they are donating money to the 24 hardest-hit school districts in those two states.

"We worked with federal and state authorities to identify the districts that had a critical need for assistance," said William Jasien, senior vice president and head of ING Education Market. "In order to continue this recovery and focus on regaining some sense of normalcy in that region, it is vital that we get our children back into their schools with proper supplies and get the teachers back to doing what they do best - educating our most precious resource."

ING, a leader in providing retirement services to K-12 teachers in the U.S., is donating \$275,000 over the next few weeks at two separate events - one in Louisiana, one in Mississippi.

The Mississippi event will take place on Dec. 16 at 9 a.m. in the North Atrium of the Mississippi Department of Education in Jackson, MS. ING is donating the money to the AASA, which will help distribute it to the superintendents.

The donations will

range from \$10,000 - \$15,000 per school district. ING and AASA have invited the superintendents of each school district to receive the money directly at these events.

Dr. Kim Stasny, superintendent of Bay St Louis Waveland School District, Sue Matheson, superintendent of Pass Christian Public School District and Mike Ladner, superintendent of Hancock County School District stated, "At this critical juncture, this money can and will be applied to help alleviate the financial pressures we're experiencing as a result of Hurricane Katrina. We can use this donation to help with everything from school supplies and textbooks to furniture and computers."

The \$275,000 is in addition to the \$1 million that ING has already donated to the American Red Cross for Hurricane Katrina relief.

"I believe one of the key messages here is that the Gulf Coast is rebuilding and getting stronger by the day and corporate citizens like ING are helping make that happen," said Paul Houston, executive director of AASA. For more information, contact Caroline Campbell at 212-309-

5931 or caroline.campbell@us.ing.com, ING; contact Barbara Knisely Michelman at 703-875-0723 or bknisely@aasa.org. AASA.

Military mention

Air Force Airman Janel Gilbert has graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

She is the daughter of Percell Biggs of Josephine St., and Greta Biggs of E. North St., both of Pass Christian, Miss.

Gilbert is a 2005 graduate of Pass Christian High School.

Mills earns nursing degree

Thirty-seven graduates from Pearl River Community College's Associate Degree Nursing Program, including Diane C. Mills of Kiln, marched into Malone Chapel on the Poplarville campus this December wearing their white uniforms for the first time as graduate nurses. The graduating students participated in a traditional name tag pinning ceremony, lighted their Nightingale Lamps, and recited the Nightingale Nursing Pledge.

ADN graduate Martha Berrigan of Poplarville gave the graduating class speech. Berrigan congratulated her fellow students on their achievement and thanked the nursing instructors. "We have worked very, very, very hard to make it to this graduation, and we are ready to begin our careers as nurses."

Nursing graduates Liz Mushko of Carriere gave the invocation, Anna Seals of Lumberton gave the benediction, and Kim Dwyer of Picayune led the Nightingale Pledge. Associate Degree Nursing Director Peggy Dease, Sophomore



Pinned

Associate Degree Nursing Director Peggy Dease pins Diane C. Mills of Kiln with her official name tag during the Pearl River Community College Associate Degree Nursing graduation.

Nursing Coordinator Belinda Holden, and Freshman Nursing Coordinator Patricia Strebeck presented the students official name pins.

Dease told the students that they had persevered and survived. "I call this class my Katrina babies.

You have survived two difficult ordeals—a natural disaster and the last semester of nursing school. You have preserved, endured and survived, but even without any interference from mother nature, you all deserve these pins."

Military mentions

SEAMAN BOURGEOIS

Coast Guard Seaman Jace R. Bourgeois, son of Layne W. Depreo of Bay St. Louis, Miss. and Timothy R. Bourgeois of Bay St. Louis, Miss., recently graduated from the U.S. Coast Guard Recruit Training Center in Cape May, N.J.

During the eight-week training program, Bourgeois completed a vigorous training curriculum consisting of academics and practical instruction on water safety and survival, military customs and courtesies, seamanship skills, first aid, fire fighting and marksmanship. A major emphasis is also placed on physical fitness, health and wellness.

Bourgeois and other recruits also received instruction on the Coast Guard's core values -- honor, respect and devotion to duty -- and how to

apply them in their military performance and personal conduct. Bourgeois will join 36,000 other men and women who comprise Coast Guard's force.

Men and women train together from the first day in the Coast Guard Recruit Training Center just as they do aboard ships and shore units throughout the world. To reinforce the team concept, Bourgeois, and other recruits were trained in preventing sexual harassment, drug and alcohol awareness, civil rights training, and the basics of the work-life balance, as well as total quality management.

Bourgeois is a 1999 graduate of St. Stanislaus College Preparatory School of Bay St. Louis, Miss.

AIRMAN RHODES
Air Force Airman Andrew C. Rhodes has

graduated from basic military training at Lackland Air Force Base, San Antonio, Texas.

During the six weeks of training, the airman studied the Air Force mission, organization, and military customs and courtesies; performed drill and ceremony marches, and received physical training, rifle marksmanship, field training exercises, and special training in human relations.

In addition, airmen who complete basic training earn credits toward an associate degree through the Community College of the Air Force.

Rhodes is the son of Jack Rhodes of Main St., Bay St. Louis, Miss., and Debra Rhodes of Trenton St., Metairie, La.

He is a 2004 graduate of Archbishop Rummel High School, Metairie.

The Staff of Southern Title Company and Joseph Kelly, Attorney at Law extend our best wishes to all for a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Our Highway 90 operations have been temporarily relocated to our Diamondhead office and all telephone and facsimile numbers are still working.

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Southern Miss admissions and financial aid personnel will be available during the university's holiday break beginning Dec. 27 to assist those seeking information about registering for the 2006 spring semester. For information about the spring 2006 semester at Southern Miss Hattiesburg, call (601) 266-5000; for Southern Miss Gulf Coast, call (228) 865-4500; or visit the university online at www.usm.edu.

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Councilman
Ward 3
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**IN THE CHANCERY COURT
OF HANCOCK COUNTY,
MISSISSIPPI**
JAMES BRITTON

**PLAINTIFF
VERSUS**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST
058, and
John Does 1, 2 & 3, and X,Y,Z
Corporations**

DEFENDANT
CAUSE NO.: C2301-05-821(1)

SUMMONS

**THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
TO: AMERICAN LEGION POST
058**

You have been made a Defendant in the suit filed in this Court by JAMES BRITTON, Plaintiff, seeking to obtain an annulment of lease agreement.

You are required to mail or hand deliver a written response to the Complaint filed against

you in this action to Zach Butterworth, Attorney for Plaintiff, of the firm HESSE &

BUTTERWORTH, whose post office address is Post Office Drawer 220, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, 39520, and whose street address is 141 Highway 90, Waveland, Mississippi.

**YOUR RESPONSES MUST BE
MAILED OR DELIVERED NOT
LATER THAN**

**THIRTY DAYS AFTER THE 8
DAY DECEMBER, 2005, WHICH IS
THE DATE OF THE FIRST PUBLICATION OF THIS SUMMONS. IF
YOUR RESPONSE IS**

**NOT SO MAILED OR DELIVERED, A JUDGMENT BY
DEFAULT WILL BE ENTERED**

**AGAINST YOU FOR THE
MONEY OR OTHER RELIEF
DEMANDED IN THE
COMPLAINT.**

You must also file the original of your Response with the Clerk of this Court within a

reasonable time afterward. Issued under my hand and the seal of said Court, this 2 day of December, 2005.

(SEAL)
TIM KELLAR,
Hancock County Chancery Clerk
By: D.L. Lee D.C.

Prepared by:
**ZACH BUTTERWORTH (MS
Bar # 9946)**

**HESSE & BUTTERWORTH,
PLLC**
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Telephone: (228) 323-4221
Facsimile: (228) 466-3317
12/08; 12/15; 12/21; 12/28/2005

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT
OF HANCOCK COUNTY,
MISSISSIPPI**
JAMES BRITTON

PLAINTIFF

VERSUS

**AMERICAN LEGION POST
058, and
John Does 1, 2 & 3, and X,Y,Z
Corporations**

DEFENDANT

CAUSE NO. C2301-05-821(1)
**COMPLAINT TO ANNUL
LEASE AGREEMENT**
COMES NOW the Plaintiff, James Britton, who is an adult resident citizen of Hancock

County, Mississippi, whose permanent home address is 2521 Highway 53, Perkinston, Mississippi, and files this his Complaint to Annul Lease Agreement and would show unto this Honorable Court the following to-wit:

I.
That the Defendant is American Legion Post 058, believed to be an unincorporated association located in Hancock County, Mississippi.

II.
That on or about October 1, 1990, the said Plaintiff herein, James Britton, did enter into a lease agreement, together with his wife, Jonnie Britton, who is now deceased and Billy C. Anderson, his

brother-in-law, to lease a certain piece of real property all as per the Lease Agreement, which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", to the American Legion Post 58.

III.

That at all times, the Plaintiff herein believed that the American Legion Post 58 was a corporation or legal entity and in good faith entered into the attached lease agreement.

IV.

Additionally, at the time of the lease agreement, Plaintiff's wife was alive and she is now

deceased as of 1998 and his brother-in-law at the time believed that he might have an interest in the property, but has since been determined that he had no actual legal interest in the property and that the property herein is owned solely by your Plaintiff herein, James Britton.

V.

The intent of the lease agreement was that the American Legion Post 58 would sponsor and

maintain an auxiliary fire station on the above described property.

VI.

That the American Legion Post 58 has failed to maintain an auxiliary fire station for several

years and as such, pursuant to paragraph I of the lease agreement, that the lease should be declared null and void and that the property should revert back to the lessor herein, his heirs and assigns.

VII.

The Plaintiff seeks that this Court declare the Lease Agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A" null and void.

VIII.

Alternatively, Plaintiff seeks to annul the lease agreement in that the Defendant, American

Legion Post 58, is without legal capacity to lease real property.

IX.

Additionally, any improvements on said property should be the possession of the Lessor

herein.

**WHEREFORE, PREMISES
CONSIDERED, your Plaintiff herein prays that this his**

Complaint to Annul Lease Agreement be received and filed; that process issue for Defendant in the manner as required by law, requiring the Defendant to plead, answer or otherwise respond to this Complaint; and upon a final hearing hereon that this Honorable Court declare the lease agreement attached hereto as Exhibit "A" null and void and that any improvements on said property should be the possession of the Plaintiff herein. Plaintiff prays for such other relief, both general and special, to which they may be entitled to in the premises.

Respectfully submitted this 26 day of October, 2005.

JAMES BRITTON
By: Zach Butterworth (MS Bar # 9946)

Attorney for James Britton
**HESSE & BUTTERWORTH,
PLLC**

100 South Beach Blvd., Suite 5
Post Office Drawer 220
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
Telephone: (228) 466-6588
Facsimile: (228) 466-2802
**STATE OF MISSISSIPPI
COUNTY OF HANCOCK**

Personally appeared before me, the undersigned authority, in and for the aforesaid County and State, James Britton, who, after being first duly sworn, on oath states that the matters and facts set forth in the above and foregoing instrument are true and correct as therein stated.

JAMES BRITTON
**SWORN TO AND SUB-
SCRIBED before me on this the 26th day of October, 2005.**

(SEAL)
Vicky Anderson
NOTARY PUBLIC
My Commission Expires: June 11, 2008
12/08; 12/15; 12/21; 12/28/2005

**IN THE CHANCERY COURT
OF HANCOCK COUNTY,
MISSISSIPPI**
**HANCOCK COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN
SERVICES,**

**BY ZADIE ROGERS, SOCIAL
SERVICES REGIONAL DIRECTOR
AND BROOKLYN JADE
PETERSON, MINOR,
BY AND THROUGH HER
NEXT FRIEND, ZADIE
ROGERS, PETITIONERS
VS.**

**KENNETH PAGE, DANNY
LIZANA
AND ANY UNKNOWN PUTA-
TIVE FATHER, RESPONDENTS
CIVIL ACTION, FILE NO.
C2301-05-688(3)**

**CHANCERY COURT SUM-
MONS**

THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI

**TO: KENNETH PAGE AND
DANNY LIZANA, who are not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose post office addresses are not known to the**

Petitioners after diligent inquiry made by said Petitioners.

**TO: ANY UNKNOWN PUTA-
TIVE FATHER, who is not to be found in the State of Mississippi on diligent inquiry and whose identity and post office address is not known to the Petitioners after diligent inquiry made by said Petitioners.**

You have been made a Respondent in the suit filed in this Court by the Hancock County Department of Human Services by Zadie Rogers, Social Services Regional Director, and Brooklyn Jade Peterson, a minor, seeking to terminate your parental rights as those rights relate to said minor and demanding that the full custody, control and authority to act on behalf of said minor be placed with the Hancock County Department of Human Services.

**YOU ARE SUMMONED TO
APPEAR AND DEFEND AGAINST
THE PETITION FILED AGAINST
YOU IN THIS ACTION AT 9:00
O'CLOCK A.M. ON THE 11TH DAY
OF JANUARY, 2006, IN THE HAR-
RISON COUNTY CHANCERY
COURTROOM, 1801 23RD
AVENUE, GULFPORT, MISSISSIPPI, BEFORE JUDGE SANFORD
STECKLER, AND IN CASE OF
YOUR FAILURE TO APPEAR AND
DEFEND, A JUDGMENT WILL BE
ENTERED AGAINST YOU FOR
THE RELIEF DEMANDED IN THE
PETITION.**

You are not required to file an answer or other pleading, but you may do so if you desire.

ISSUED under my hand and seal of said Court, this 12 day of December, 2005.

(SEAL)
TIMOTHY KELLAR,
CHANCERY CLERK
HANCOCK COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

**BAY ST. LOUIS, MISSISSIPPI
39520**

BY: Lorrinell Scarborough
Deputy Clerk
12/21; 12/28/05; 01/04/06

**NOTICE OF INVITATION
FOR BIDS**

Sealed bids will be received by the Board of Supervisors of Hancock County, Bay St. Louis, Mississippi, until 11:00 a.m., January 18, 2006, and shortly thereafter publicly opened for providing:

3-WHEEL BROOM BEACH CLEANER - VIBRATORY ASPHALT ROLLER - HYDRAULIC EXCAVATOR - ARTICULATED WHEEL LOADER - ALL-WHEEL DRIVE BACKHOE/LOADER - MOTOR GRADER - ALL-WHEEL DRIVE MOTOR GRADER - EXCAVATOR O TAIL SWING - TANDEM AXEL DUMP TRUCK WITH BODY - ROAD REPAIR MACHINE FOR THE HANCOCK COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

Bid specifications are available, upon request, from the office of the Board of Supervisors, at the Courthouse Complex, 3068 Longfellow Drive, Trailer # 3, Bay St. Louis, MS 39520, or by calling (228) 467-0172.

All envelopes must be marked on the outside of the envelope "BID ENCLOSED" and state the item bid on and the bid opening date.

All envelopes must be stamped filed in the Hancock County Chancery Clerk's Office before 11:00 a.m. on the day of the bid opening.

The Board reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Published by Order of the Board of Supervisors of Hancock County, Mississippi, this the 5th day of December, 2005.

(SEAL)
Timothy A. Kellar
Clerk, Board of Supervisors
Hancock County, Mississippi
By: Penny Dean, D.C.
12/28/2005; 01/04/2006

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ROAD SIGNS FOR THE HANCOCK COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT FOR THE PERIOD BEGINNING AT THE DATE OF ACCEPTANCE OF SAID BIDS UNTIL DECEMBER 31, 2006, OR UNTIL A NEW BID/CONTRACT IS ACCEPTED

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12/28/2005; 01/04/2006

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GRAVEL AND SAND - UNPROCESSED CLAY GRAVEL - PEA GRAVEL - WASH PEA GRAVEL - MASONRY SAND - RIVER SAND - CLAY SAND - WHITE CEMETERY SAND - PURE SAND - FILL SAND - GRAVEL - SAND - WASH GRAVEL - CLAY GRAVEL - DENSE-GRADE CRUSHED LIME-STONE - (F.O.B. PLANT) - (DELIVERED TO VARIOUS AREAS) FOR THE HANCOCK COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

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12/28/2005; 01/04/2006

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GRADER BLADES FOR THE HANCOCK COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT

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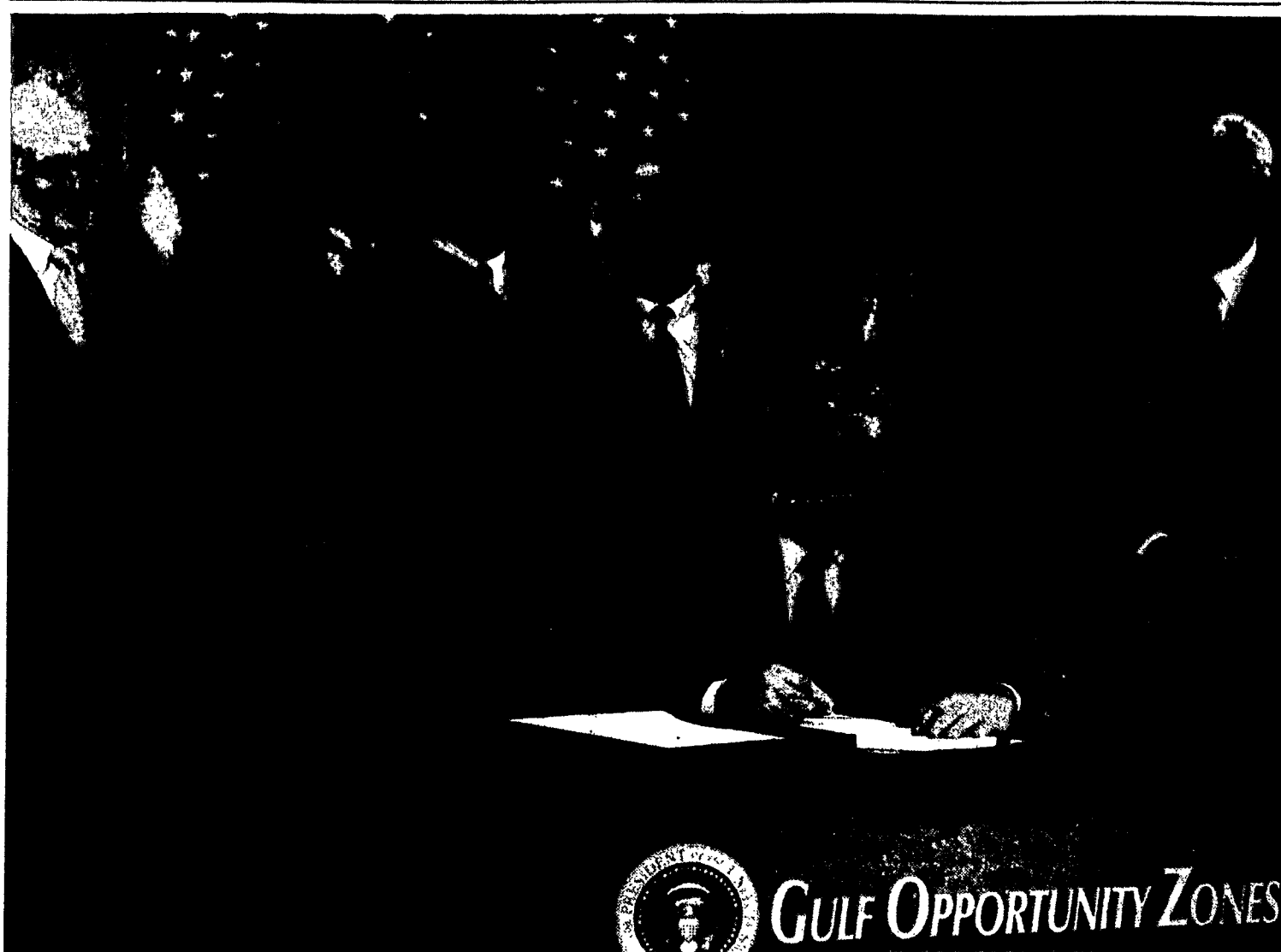
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PROVIDING VARIOUS OFFICE AND JANITORIAL SUPPLIES for Hancock County for a period beginning at the date of acceptance of said bid until June 30, 2006, or until a new bid is accepted.



Sealed deal

President George W. Bush signs H.R. 4440, the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act of 2005, Wednesday Dec. 21, 2005, as administration officials and legislative members, including Mississippi Senator Trent Lott, join him for the signing ceremony held in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building in Washington, DC. White House photo by Paul Morse

Tax incentive bill will help area business recover

U.S. Senator Trent Lott of Mississippi joined President Bush at the White House as the President signed into law the Gulf Opportunity Zone Act to benefit 40 of Mississippi's counties hardest hit by Hurricane Katrina.

"The new law makes businesses throughout the hurricane-stricken zone eligible for many tax incentives designed to encourage businesses to reinvest in facilities and rehire Mississippi workers," Senator Lott said. "It helps our cities restructure their debt and increase the coast's housing supply."

"By signing this bill into law, the President has taken an important step to help the victims of Hurricane Katrina," Senator Lott said. "Getting Mississippians back into steady jobs is one of the best thing we can do to help them begin rebuilding their lives."

On Friday, December 16th, the Senate passed the tax bill, which includes almost \$6 billion in tax cuts and

incentives for Katrina-impacted counties in states hardest hit by Katrina. Senator Lott, a senior member of the Senate Finance Committee, wrote most of the bill's provisions.

The law contains more than a dozen Katrina-related tax incentives for the Gulf Opportunity (GO) Zone, defined as that portion of the Katrina disaster area determined by President Bush to warrant individual assistance from the federal government under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act.

"In the coming months, I know these provisions will provide a firm foundation for economic recovery throughout the Gulf region," Senator Lott said.

The new law allows businesses temporary relief from some taxation and regulations to re-establish their places of employment. It lowers the cost of capital for small, medium, and large businesses alike in order to spur business invest-

ment on the Mississippi coast. For example, businesses in the first year are permitted to expense 50 percent of the cost of new equipment, in addition to some commercial and residential rental real estate expenditures.

Senator Lott said that one provision in particular focuses on helping small businesses in the disaster zone. Small businesses can deduct up to \$200,000 of the cost of property used in their enterprises and increase their level of investment, allowing more small businesses to use this benefit in rebuilding.

The Katrina tax cut law increases by \$4.8 billion the amount of tax exempt bonds Mississippi can allocate in the GO Zone through 2010, and allows an additional advanced refunding for all bonds issued prior to 2007 within the GO Zone by the State of Mississippi and by all local bond issuers. This provision effectively allows cash-strapped localities to restructure their debt, delaying payments on principal and interest while their tax base is re-established.

Senator Lott said the law provides \$1 billion in New Markets Tax Credits for companies investing in Mississippi businesses and construction. To infuse businesses that have lost revenue with cash, it allows out a net operating loss carryback for businesses, public utilities and small timber growers in the GO Zone for new investment and repair, business casualty losses, and moving and temporary housing expenses.

Under the law, 50 percent of demolition and cleanup costs is deductible by businesses. The bill doubles refor-

estation expensing to \$20,000.

Senator Lott said the new law provides a 40 percent employee retention credit for wages paid up to \$6,000 after August 28, 2005, and before December 31, 2005. That provision incentivizes businesses that have had to close temporarily, to continue to employ Mississippians until reopening. The credit, which already applied to small employers, now covers all employers, Senator Lott said.

Finally the law includes significant incentives to ensure an adequate housing supply. Under one provision, funding for low income housing is increased by allowing Mississippi to allocate volumes of additional housing credit amounts, three times the normal allocation, with respect to population for the years 2006 to 2009.

The new law also provides Mississippians greater access to mortgage revenue bonds which are tax-exempt bonds that state and local governments generally issue through housing finance agencies. The proceeds from the bonds are used to fund below-market interest rate mortgages for certain first-time homebuyers who meet income and purchase price restrictions.

The newly-signed law lifts the first-time homeowner requirement and allows up to \$150,000 in mortgage revenue bond proceeds to be used for repairs through December 31, 2010. The law also relaxes the income and purchase price restrictions with respect to mortgage revenue bonds funded with the proposal's Katrina GO Zone bonds.

School gets \$1.2 million for repairs

Federal funds totaling about \$7 million are approved for the Mississippi Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the City of Bay St. Louis and for Green County, U.S. Senator Trent Lott said today. The funds will help cover costs associated with the ongoing recovery effort following Hurricane Katrina.

\$1,256,038.49 to the City of Bay St. Louis - As a result of Hurricane Katrina, high wind and

rain, storm surge, and over four feet of standing water severely damaged the Second Street Elementary School located within the city of Bay St. Louis. This project addresses the damage to the school's Ingram building. The damage to the building components was so extensive, FEMA policy deems eligible the cost to replace the entire structure. This amount represents the estimated cost to replace the facility.

PET HAVEN Veterinary Hospital
2016 Benigno Lane • Bay St. Louis
off Drinkwater behind Wendy's
Practice limited to Dogs & Cats
467-3910
Mon-Thurs 7:30am - 6pm • Friday 7:30am - 1pm
Animal Hospital Of Diamondhead
1089 Tina Ladner-Vick Faye Rd. • Pass Christian
Boarding Available **255-4144**

David W. Tuminello, DDS

700 Dunbar Avenue
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
228-467-6044

*Our Office Will Re-Open
In January 2006.*

*"Please Call Now to Schedule All New
Appointments or Any Existing Appointments"*

New Patients Welcome!!!

*Celebrate The
Miracle!*
**MERRY
CHRISTMAS**
*And A Safe And
Happy New Year*
**TREUTEL
INSURANCE AGENCY**
(228) 467-5662

NOW OPEN IN OUR NEW KILN LOCATION

*Accelerated Physical Therapy
& Occupational Health, Inc.*

MATT CAPO
PHYSICAL THERAPIST

As we rebuild our Bay St. Louis facility, we invite you to our new location in Kiln, MS at

**16160 Hwy. 603 Suite B
255-3888 • (fax) 255-3836**

McFarland Family Dentistry

is in the process of rebuilding their dental office in Diamondhead at the same location and anticipate reopening around the first of the year.

Patients and active treatment or emergencies may be treated by Dr. Paul Dugas in Slidell, LA at 985-641-3245

Happy Holidays

Thank You & God Bless

Wishing You A Joyous and Blessed HOLIDAY SEASON!



*Dr. Desmond Hoda
Family & Staff*

HODA CHIROPRACTIC CLINIC
4308 Park Ten Drive, Diamondhead, MS
(228) 255-5328